

Technical Cybersecurity

gdb

gdb

GNU DEBUGGER

- binary level debugger
- Used with the GNU compiler collection
 - Can use with other executables too, like LLVM
 - Though LLVM has LLDB

UNIX DEBUGGERS

- GDB, usually used with Linux distros
- LLDB, usually used with MacOS
- ...but you can use either with the other

Command Line

GUIs

- DDD
- ...well, that's kinda it

USUALLY USED VIA CLI

- Very powerful, not too difficult to learn
- Cheatsheets online
 - <https://darkdust.net/files/GDB%20Cheat%20Sheet.pdf>
 - <https://cs.brown.edu/courses/cs033/docs/guides/gdb.pdf>
 - <https://gist.github.com/rkubik/b96c23bd8ed58333de37f2b8cd052c30>
 - Google: gdb cheatsheet

Let's use it!

GDB IS WORDY

- ▶ -q fixes that
- ▶ set an alias:
 - ▶ **\$ alias gdb="gdb -q"**
- ▶ place in ~/.bashrc

WORDS MEAN WHAT?

- ▶ Warranty, configuration info, bug reporting, manual location, etc.
- ▶ one and done!

```
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb f2
GNU gdb (Ubuntu 8.1-0ubuntu3) 8.1.0.20180409-git
Copyright (C) 2018 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <http://g
This is free software: you are free to change and re
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law
and "show warranty" for details.
This GDB was configured as "x86_64-linux-gnu".
Type "show configuration" for configuration details.
For bug reporting instructions, please see:
<http://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/bugs/>.
Find the GDB manual and other documentation resource
<http://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/documentation/>.
For help, type "help".
Type "apropos word" to search for commands related t
Reading symbols from f2...done.
(gdb) quit
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb -q f2
Reading symbols from f2...done.
(gdb) quit
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ alias gdb="gdb
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb f2
Reading symbols from f2...done.
(gdb) █
```

```

===== B E G I N N I N G

        _start:
3b0      xor     ebp, ebp
3b2      mov     r9, rdx
3b5      pop     rsi
3b6      mov     rdx, rsp
3b9      and     rsp, 0xfffff0
3bd      push    rax
3be      push    rsp
3bf      mov     r8, __libc_start_main
3c6      mov     rcx, __libc_start_main
3cd      mov     rdi, main
3d4      call    qword [0x4004bc]
3da      hlt
; endp
3db      align   32

===== B E G I N N I N G

```

```

ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb f2
symbols from f2...done.
info func
defined functions:

function2.c:
ll(void);
ll2(void);
n(int, char **);

gging symbols:
00000400390 _init
000004003b0 _start
000004003e0 _dl_relocate_static_pie
000004003f0 deregister_tm_clones
00000400420 register_tm_clones
00000400460 __do_global_ctors_aux
00000400490 frame_dummy
000004004e0 __libc_csu_init
00000400550 __libc_csu_fini
00000400554 _fini
break _start
int 1 at 0x4003b0

g program: /home/cclamb/Work/abi-playground/f2

int 1, 0x000000000004003b0 in _start ()
disas
assembler code for function _start:
000000004003b0 <+0>: xor %ebp,%ebp
000000004003b2 <+2>: mov %rdx,%r9
000000004003b5 <+5>: pop %rsi
000000004003b6 <+6>: mov %rsp,%rdx
000000004003b9 <+9>: and $0xfffffffffffffffff0,%rsp
000000004003bd <+13>: push %rax
000000004003be <+14>: push %rsp
000000004003bf <+15>: mov $0x400550,%r8
000000004003c6 <+22>: mov $0x4004e0,%rcx
000000004003cd <+29>: mov $0x4004bc,%rdi
000000004003d4 <+36>: callq *0x200c16(%rip) # 0
000000004003da <+42>: hlt
assembler dump.

```

```
===== B E G I N N I N G

_start:
3b0      xor     ebp, ebp
3b2      mov     r9, rdx
3b5      pop     rsi
3b6      mov     rdx, rsp
3b9      mov     rsp, 0xfffff0
3bd      push    rax
3be      push    rsp
3bf      mov     r8, __libc_start_main
3c6      mov     rcx, __libc_start_main
3cd      mov     rdi, main
3d4      call    qword [0]
3da      hlt
; end of program

===== B E G I N N I N G
```

Intel

AT&T

(gdb) set disassembly-flavor intel

```
ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb f2
symbols from f2...done.
info func
defined functions:

function2.c:
ll(void);
ll2(void);
n(int, char **);

gathering symbols:
00000400390 _init
000004003b0 _start
000004003e0 _dl_relocate_static_pie
000004003f0 deregister_frame
00000400420 register_frame
00000400460 __do_global_ctors_start
00000400490 frame_dummy
000004004e0 __libc_csu_init
00000400550 __libc_csu_fini
00000400554 _fini
break _start
int 1 at 0x4003b0

g program: /home/cclamb/Work/abi-playground/f2

int 1, 0x0000000000004003b0 in _start ()
disas
  assembler code for function _start:
000000004003b0 <+0>:      xor     %ebp,%ebp
000000004003b2 <+2>:      mov     %rdx,%r9
000000004003b5 <+5>:      pop     %rsi
000000004003b8 <+8>:      mov     %rdx,%rsp
000000004003bb <+11>:     mov     $0xffffffffffffffff,%rsp
000000004003be <+14>:     push    %rax
000000004003bf <+15>:     mov     $0x400550,%r8
000000004003c6 <+22>:     mov     $0x4004e0,%rcx
000000004003cd <+29>:     mov     $0x4004bc,%rdi
000000004003d4 <+36>:     callq  *0x200c16(%rip)    # 0x200c16
000000004003da <+42>:     hlt
assembler dump.
```

.gdbinit

PLACE IN HOME DIRECTORY

- ▶ Allows you to insert common commands (like setting the disassembly flavor)
 - ▶ **\$ echo “set disassembly-flavor intel” > ~/.gdbinit**
- ▶ You can also use an init file with common commands
 - ▶ use the *-x filename* or *-ex command*
 - ▶ Your init file won't be read when you do this
 - ▶ Good for common stuff you always do


```
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ cat gdbinit
set disassembly-flavor intel
b _start
r
cclamb@ubuntu:~/Work/abi-playground $ gdb -x ./gdbinit f2
Reading symbols from f2...done.
Breakpoint 1 at 0x4003b0

Breakpoint 1, 0x00000000004003b0 in _start ()
(gdb) disas
Dump of assembler code for function _start:
=> 0x00000000004003b0 <+0>:      xor     ebp,ebp
    0x00000000004003b2 <+2>:      mov     r9,rdx
    0x00000000004003b5 <+5>:      pop     rsi
    0x00000000004003b6 <+6>:      mov     rdx,rsp
    0x00000000004003b9 <+9>:      and     rsp,0xffffffffffffffff
    0x00000000004003bd <+13>:     push    rax
    0x00000000004003be <+14>:     push    rsp
    0x00000000004003bf <+15>:     mov     r8,0x400550
    0x00000000004003c6 <+22>:     mov     rcx,0x4004e0
    0x00000000004003cd <+29>:     mov     rdi,0x4004bc
    0x00000000004003d4 <+36>:     call   QWORD PTR [rip+0x200c16]      # 0x600ff0
    0x00000000004003da <+42>:     hlt
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) □
```

Using -x

Let's start looking at
f2.